

Application Serial No. 09/555,549
Amendment dated 30 July 2003
Reply to Office Action mailed 6 May 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended). An aseptic package enclosing an intravaginal ring, the package having an exterior side and an interior side and comprising a laminate and a reclosable strip for reclosing the package after opening, the laminate comprising from the interior side to the exterior side a layer of sealable material, a barrier layer and a damage protective layer, and the reclosable strip comprising a strip of polymeric material, and wherein the package prevents influence of the active substances present in the ring on from leaking to the environment.

Claim 2 (previously presented). The package according to claim 1, wherein the sealable material is a heat-sealable polymer.

Claim 3 (previously presented). The package according to claim 1, wherein the barrier layer is a metal foil.

Claim 4 (previously presented). The package according to claim 2, wherein the heat-sealable polymer is polyethylene, the barrier layer is aluminum foil, and the damage protective layer is a polyester film.

Claim 5 (currently amended). A method for the aseptic packaging of an intravaginal ring comprising placing the ring into a sachet comprising a polyethylene-aluminum foil laminate and a polyester outer layer and further comprising a plastic rib-and-groove reclosing means thereby

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preventing ~~influence of the active substances present in~~ the intravaginal ring ~~on~~ from leaking to the environment.

Claim 6 (previously presented). The package according to claim 1, comprising a low density polyethylene inner layer of 35-45 μm , an aluminum foil barrier layer of 8-10 μm , and a PET protective outer layer of 10-14 μm .

Claim 7 (previously presented). The package according to claim 1, wherein the reclosable strip comprises a rib-and-groove reclosing means.

Claim 8 (previously presented). The package of claim 1, wherein the package further prevents influence of the environment on the ring.

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Claim 9 (previously presented). The method of claim 5, whereby influence of the environment on the ring is also prevented.

Claim 10 (previously presented). A method to avoid influence from a vaginal ring upon the environment by packaging the ring into a sachet comprising a polyethylene-aluminum foil laminate and a polyester outer layer and further comprising a plastic rib-and-groove reclosing means thereby avoiding influence from the intravaginal ring on the environment.
